

BAKEWELL  
Rural District Council.

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Annual Report

ON THE  
RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT,

For the Year 1922,

BY

Thomas Fentem, M.D., B.Sc.,

Of the Middle Temple. Barrister-at-Law.

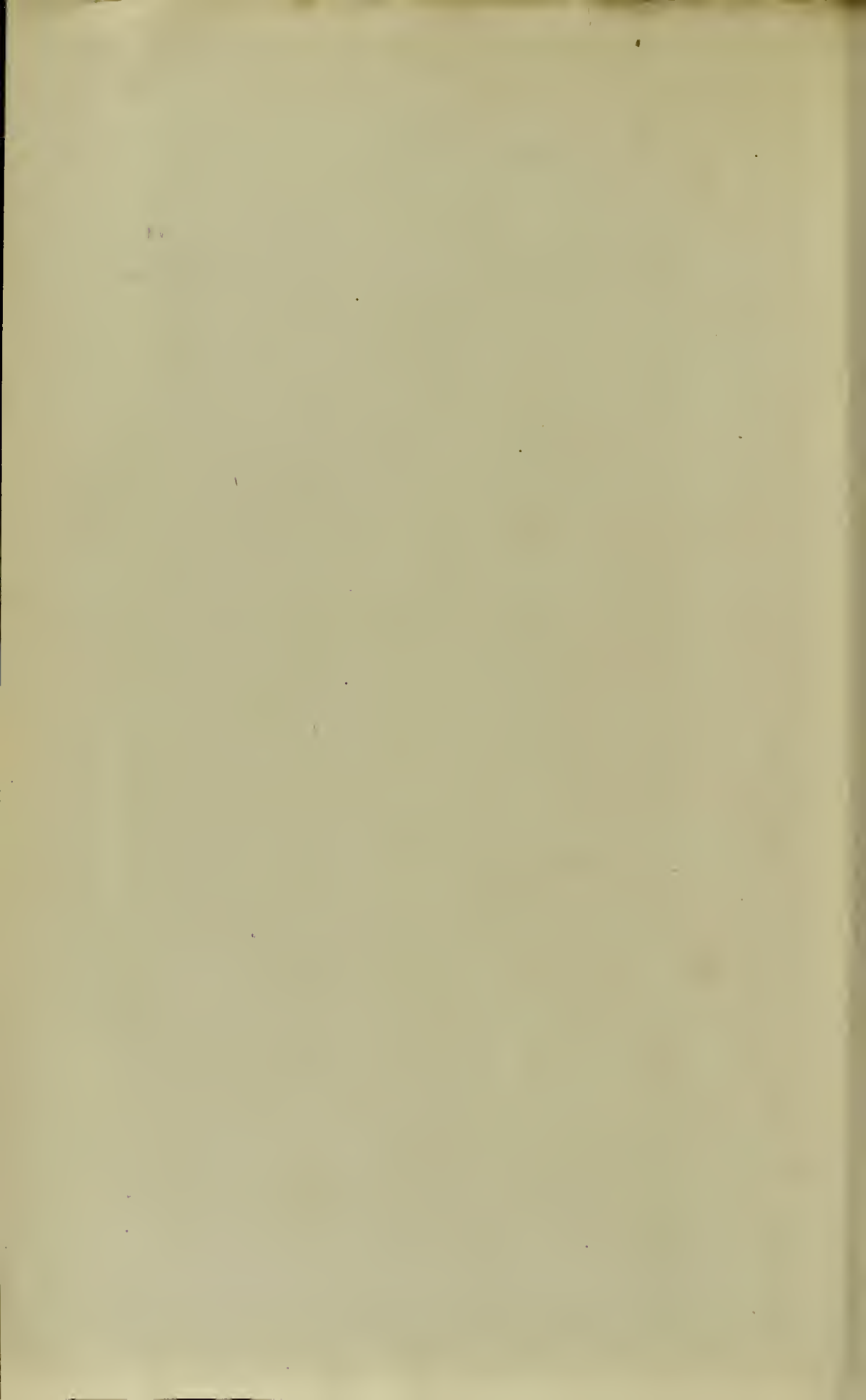
Medical Officer of Health.

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*Printed by Order of the Council,*

ALFRED HAWES,

*Clerk.*



DAGNALL,

BAKEWELL,

March 2nd, 1923.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BAKEWELL  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MY LORD DUKE AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the Year 1922. The Report is based upon lines similar to those which governed the preparation of my Annual Report for 1921.

The Bakewell Rural District has an area of 84,145 acres, including the portion covered by water.

The Population at the Census 1921 was 19,810. If an estimate of the population is to be made to the middle of 1922 based upon this figure as compared with the figure representing the population at the 1911 Census, one obtains a population of 19,765, which is probably a fairly correct estimate.

I am not able to give with accuracy the number of inhabited houses at the Census 1921, the information not being in my possession, but it is probably between 5,100 and 5,200.

The Rateable value of the District is rather less than in the previous year, being £133,276 as compared with £135,732.

## 2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

The total number of Births was 366, of this number 188 were males and 178 females. There were sixteen illegitimate births, eleven being males and five females. These figures are very similar to those of the previous year, when there was a total number of Births of 372, of which 186 were males and 186 females, with fifteen illegitimate births, eight males and seven females.

The Birth Rate is 18.4 per 1,000 of the Population at the Census.

The total Deaths from all causes amounted to 241, 125 being males and 116 females. This gives a Death Rate of 12.1 per 1,000 of the Census population, a rate slightly higher than last year. The disparity of deaths between the sexes is not so great as during 1921, in 1922 there being only nine more male than female deaths, compared with an excess of forty-nine males over females in 1921. This close approximation is unusual.

For comparison I give you the Birth Rate and Death Rate for the whole of England and Wales, based upon the population at the Census 1921, as follows:—

Birth Rate 20.6 per 1,000 of the Total Population.

Death Rate 12.9    „    „    „    „    „

Two women died in, or in consequence of, child-birth, both of them from accidents or diseases of pregnancy or parturition. No death occurred from Puerperal Sepsis.

Twenty children under one year of age died, ten being males and ten females. This is equivalent to an Infantile Death Rate of 54.6 per 1,000 Registered Births as compared with 56.4 for the District in 1921, and 77 for the whole of England and Wales during 1922.

No death occurred amongst illegitimate children under one year of age.

No deaths were attributed to Measles, five were due to Whooping Cough, and two children, under the age of two years, died from Diarrhœa.

The heaviest mortality was caused by Heart Disease, with thirty-four deaths, and Cancer with thirty-one, which combined represent rather more than one quarter of all deaths due to defined diseases. The Cancer Deaths represent a Cancer Death Rate of 1.5 per 1,000 of the population at the last Census. This is a figure which must give rise to serious thought. This increase of Cancer Deaths in recent years is a real increase, and though more accurate diagnosis and certification of deaths may account for some portion of it, it cannot account for the whole. The actual cause of Cancer being still obscure it is difficult to say what should be done to combat this increase, but something can be done in the way of making the houses and surroundings of the people more fit, and still more might be done by educating the people. It is a sad fact that the majority of Cancer patients come for medical assistance too late for any reasonable chance of cure. The public need enlightening, and the good work done by the campaigns of the American Society for the Control of Cancer prove that this can be done, and with most excellent results, without producing cancerophobia.

### 3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

I have set out in Tabular Form, the number of each notifiable disease during the Year, with the total number of cases, admitted to Hospital, and the deaths which occurred from each disease:—

Disease.	Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	3	—	—
Diphtheria ...	4	—	—
Erysipelas ...	5	—	—
Pneumonia ...	18	—	10
Puerperal Fever ...	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	63	14	1
Tubercular Disease...	30	—	11

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified. This occurred in a female child born on August 12th. The history I obtained was that the eyes began to “run” a fortnight after the birth of the child, and a few days after the onset the trouble was satisfactorily clearing up.

I believe if it was generally understood that Ophthalmia Neonatorum is usually defined as a purulent blennorrhœa commonly due to gonorrhœal infection fewer cases would be notified under this heading, and statistics would more truly represent the real incidence of this condition.

This case was treated at home and there is no reason to fear the vision will be impaired.

The following Table gives an analysis of the total cases of, and deaths from, notifiable diseases under certain age groups:—

Table giving total cases and deaths of Notifiable Diseases at certain age-groups.

	Under 1		1	2	3	4	5	6-10		11-15		16-20		21-35		36-45		46-65		Over 65		Total	Removed to Hospital.	
	Cases.	Deaths.						Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.			Cases.
Polio-myelitis    ..    ..					1	1				1								1				3	1	
Diphtheria    ..    ..						1	1								1							4		
Erysipelas    ..    ..														1		1			2	1		5		
Pneumonia    ..    ..					1	1		1	1	1	1	6	3	1	1	3	1	4	4	18	10			
Puerperal Fever    ..    ..													1								1			
Scarlet Fever    ..    ..	1				1	5	10	28	11	4		2		1							63	1	14	
Pulmonary							1				2	1	5	3				1	2	1		11	7	
Tuberculosis									1	1				2	1	1		1	1	1		7	2	
									1	3	1	2	1	7	4	1		2	3	2		18	9	
Non-Pulmonary								2	2	1											1	6	2	
Tuberculosis								2	2	1	2			1								6		
												2	1											



#### 4. CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

I have discussed causes of sickness which have been specially noteworthy under the heading, Vital Statistics.

#### 5. SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

*Professional Nursing in the Home.* (a) *General.* In several of the Villages District Nurses are established by private enterprise under the County Nursing Association. I am not aware that the Nurses receive financial assistance from your Council.

(b) *For infectious diseases.* I have not advised the provision of Nursing assistance during the year, the need not having arisen.

*Midwives.* These are under the control of the County Council who are the Local Supervising Authority, and Inspectors of Midwives are appointed by that Body.

*Clinics and Treatment Centres.* There is an Infant Welfare Centre at Tideswell and Youlgreave, conducted under the supervision of the County Council. There is also an Infant Welfare Centre at Eyam under the Control of a local Committee. The County Health Visitor pays friendly visits to this Centre.

The children attending the Public Elementary Schools receive treatment at Clinics provided by the County Council at Centres convenient for this and other Authorities' areas.

*Hospitals.* The Hospitals provided are those of the Haddon Joint Hospital Board. This provides six beds for Scarlet Fever only at the Whitworth Hospital, Darley Dale, and eight beds for Small-Pox near Foolow. This Hospital provision is shared with six other Sanitary Districts. In epidemic times this is altogether inadequate, but this question is threadbare.



*Ambulance facilities. (a) for infectious cases.* This is provided by the Haddon Joint Hospital Board—a one horse cab. I have before criticised this provision and urged the need for a proper Ambulance, and as the distances to be travelled are in some cases great, a Motor Ambulance is a necessity.

*(b) for non-infectious and accident cases.* Motor Ambulances are available, provided by the Red Cross Society and housed at convenient centres.

## 6. LABORATORY WORK.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out in the Laboratories of the County Council free of cost to medical practitioners.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is provided free in necessitous cases by your Council.

## 7. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The following Table gives a summary of the work of the Sanitary Department during the year under the Public Health Acts or Bye-Laws.

The adoptive Acts in force in the District are:—

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Acts, 1890.

Adopted February 27th, 1893.

So much of Part III of the Public Health Act Amendment Act 1890, as applies to Rural Districts.

Adopted June 14th, 1897.

Part IV of the same Act.

Adopted April 9th, 1921.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, relating to Public Conveniences.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTORS, 1922.

## Bakewell Rural Sanitary District.

*Names of Inspectors—M. MANN and ALFRED GREEN.*

### HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING—(Mr. Mann).

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17.	No. Unfit for Habitation.	Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders.	Closing Orders Made.	Number Repaired without Closing Order.	Number Repaired after Closing Order made.
130.	Nil.	1	1	Nil.	Nil.
Number Closed.	Number Demolished.	Number Repaired Voluntarily.			
Nil.	Nil.	25			

### HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING—(Mr. Green)—Nil.

	MR. MANN.		MR. GREEN.	
	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice.	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice.
<b>DRAINAGE—</b>				
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe ...	9	...	3	...
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains ...	11	...	10	...
Drains Obstructed ...	10	...	2	...
<b>CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—</b>				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (Not for Conversion ...	28	...	10	...
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ...	3	...	1	...
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s ...	2	...	—	...
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets ...	1	...	—	...
Defective Water Closets ...	1	...	1	...
Provision of Additional Water Closets ...	2	...	—	...
Provision of Portable Ashbins ...	3	...	1	...
Dirty Closets ...	—	...	1	...
<b>OTHER DEFECTS—</b>				
Paving of Courts and Yards ...	1	...	2	...
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts ...	30	...	2	...
Sinks ...	9	...	—	...
Insufficient Ventilation ...	17	...	2	...
Windows ...	23	...	2	...
Dampness ...	17	...	2	...
Water in Cellars ...	—	...	—	...
Water Supply ...	12	...	—	...
Overcrowding ...	2	...	—	...
Foul Condition of Houses ...	7	...	—	...
Offensive Accumulations ...	20	...	—	...
Animals improperly kept ...	1	...	1	...
Pigsties ...	—	...	—	...
Smoke Nuisances ...	—	...	—	...
Urinals ...	1	...	—	...
Nuisances not specified above ...	15	...	2	...
<b>Totals</b> ...	<b>225</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>15</b>

	Inspections Made.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.	Inspections Made.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops ...	35	...	2	...
Bakehouses ...	6	...	1	...
Slaughterhouses ...	17	...	9	...
Offensive Trades ...	10	...	—	...
Common Lodging-houses ...	3	...	—	...
<b>Totals</b> ...	<b>71</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>

Infected Rooms Disinfected—Mr. Mann : Number, 40. Method, Formalin.

Mr. Green : Number, 3. Method, Sprayed with Formalin.

Samples submitted for Examination—Mr. Mann : Water, 6.

Signed, M. MANN.  
ALFRED GREEN.

During the year there were but few conversions of closets on the conservancy system to closets of the water carriage system. In certain of the large Townships no proper system of sewage collection and disposal exists, and in such places this conversion cannot be advised. In my Annual Report for 1920 I tabulated those places in which the provision of sewage schemes was most pressing and I placed them in order of need as follows:—

Eyam.  
 Ashford.  
 Youlgreave.  
 Bradwell.  
 Calver, and  
 Eyam Woodlands.

I would now, for reasons given in that Report, re-arrange this list, and place Eyam Woodlands with Ashford and Youlgreave. I understand that it is proposed to deal with the sewage at Youlgreave, but I am not aware of the details of the proposed Scheme.

There are forty-one Licensed Slaughter-houses in the District. Under this heading I can only repeat what I have written before, that "many of the existing slaughter-houses were not originally built for the purpose for which they are now used, and, like other makeshifts, they are not eminently suited for their present purpose. I have previously suggested public abbatoirs in various parts of the District to which animals could be taken for slaughter. This would enable your Officers to have more efficient control of meat intended for human consumption, a control which, under existing conditions, is far from being so. At the present time there is no public abbatoir in the District."

The number of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops on the Register in 1922 was one hundred and sixty-two. Much of the milk produced is sent to the large Towns, as Manchester and Sheffield, for consumption.

Disinfection is carried out after recovery, removal, or death of the patient by the Sanitary Inspector. Disinfection is by means of a spray of Formalin. This method has proved to be quite efficient.

*Scavenging.* The question of Scavenging in a sparsely populated Rural District is one fraught with difficulties, and as years go by these difficulties become greater because there is a lessening demand for the contents of privies for their fertilising value. I have suggested that the disposal of house refuse would be made more practicable if portable incinerators were provided in various parts of the District. One incinerator could serve several contiguous villages, a weekly or fortnightly visit being paid to each village in the group. This I regard as the most efficient and economical method of disposal of this form of refuse, a form of refuse which being of considerable bulk is not otherwise easily disposed of.

Some of the Townships are provided with a more or less efficient, in most cases less efficient, scheme of scavenging, as follows :

Ashford,  
Beeley,  
Bradwell,  
Calver,  
Cromford.  
Eyam,  
Hathersage, and  
Tideswell.

## 8. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Staff includes a part time Medical Officer of Health and one Sanitary Inspector, who devotes his whole time to the duties of his Office.

During the Year Mr. Mann the Sanitary Inspector resigned his appointment, and early in December Mr. Green took up the duties of this Office.

## 9. HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the Year:—

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
As part of a municipal housing Scheme							...	62

1. *Unfit Dwelling-houses.*

INSPECTION. (i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts or Housing Act):— ... .. 397

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected under Housing Regulations... .. 130

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation:— ... .. *Nil.*

2. *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers:— ... .. 181

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Duke and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS FENTEM.







